

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/282,157

Examiner

Hani Kazimi

Applicant(s)

KINNEY, JR. ET AL.

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-21,23-40 and 74.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9/10/02;7/10/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on March 21, 2006. Claims 1, 3-21, 23-40 and 74 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

4. The prior art of record (Ausubel et al. US Pat. No. 6,026,383) teaches a method and corresponding system for conducting an auction using a plurality of bid entry terminals, wherein an auctioneer announces a price to the bidders, each bidder responds by entering a bid indicating how many objects each bidder wishes to purchase at the current price. A bidder is capable of entering his demand curve into the bid entry terminal before the start of the auction or as the auction progresses. The bid entry terminal transmits the quantities demanded to the bidding information processor.

Even though, the prior art of record teaches a method and corresponding system for conducting an auction using a plurality of bid entry terminals performing the above mentioned steps, the prior art of record fails to teach a computer implemented method and corresponding system for conducting an electronic online auction on behalf of a buyer, wherein the auction is between a plurality of potential bidders, competing to supply a lot having at least one product to the buyer comprising the steps of generating a transformed bid according to one or more first non-comparative bid parameters

associated with the first bidder using a first transform function associated with the first bidder, the first transform function operative on the first bid information and the first non-comparative bid parameters, wherein one or more of the first non-comparative parameters and the first transform function being known only to the buyer, converting within the server the transformed bid into a second bid information defined in a context of a second bidder according to one or more second non-comparative bid parameters associated with the second bidder, using a second transform function associated with the second bidder, the second transform function operative on the transformed bid and the second non-comparative bid parameters, wherein one or more of the second non-comparative parameters and the second transform function being known only to the buyer, wherein the second non-comparative parameters being different than the first non-comparative parameters, and wherein the second transform function being different than the first transform function, and transmitting electronically the second bid information to the second bidder over the network, said transmitted second bid information representing enabling said second bidder to view said first bid originally defined in said context of said first bidder in said context of said second bidder, such that the second bidder is able to view other bid information from other bidders including the first bidder in view of a specific format desired by the second bidder, wherein the first bidder and the second bidder are different seller parties, and the buyer is different from the first bidder and the second bidder. For these reasons claims 1, 21 and 74 are deemed to be allowable over the prior art of record, and claims 3-20 and 23-40 are allowed by dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled Comments on Statement of Reasons for allowance.

Conclusion

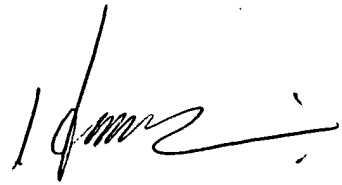
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hani Kazimi whose telephone number is (571) 272-6745. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-2 17-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Kazimi', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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June 26, 2006